

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

In the paragraphing bridging pages 5 and 6, amend as follows:

As shown, platform 2 includes redundant switching buses 10a and 10b. Redundant CPU cards 12a, 12b are connected to buses 10a, 10b, an HDLC bus 14, and to host 4 by way of input/output (I/O) cards 16a, 16b. Depending upon the requirements of a particular application, various combinations of the following "line" cards, each of which supports a particular digital telecommunications protocol, may be included within platform 2: T1 card 16; E1 card 18, DS3 cards 20a, 20b. For redundancy, a standby card 22, which is a duplicate of one of the other line cards, may also be included. All such line cards have an associated I/O card, denoted collectively by reference number 26, which serves as an interface to PSTN 6.

On page 8, amend the first full paragraph as follows:

A preferred embodiment of the present invention utilizes a sliding tray and docking station design, such as that described in commonly-owned United States Patent Application Serial No.: ~~(Atty. Docket No.: 104195-0011), filed on even date herewith~~ 101,783,961, filed February 20, 2004 by DeCesare for an IMPROVED TELECOMMUNICATIONS SWITCH/SERVER, which is presently incorporated herein by reference, and is represented in Figure 2B. The docking station 74 may be physically mounted to a rack or cabinet (not shown), and contains only the passive components of the telecom switch 42, such as the passive I/O board 46, and therefore has a very low probability of failure. Because of this, the docking station 74 may be considered to be a non-field replaceable unit (FRU), and it may be permanently mounted in the cabinet. The sliding tray 76, on the other hand, contains all the active components of the telecom switch 42 such

as the processing board 44, and is intended to be easily replaced as an FRU in accordance with the features of the present invention. Also, there may be no need to power down the system while changing the processing boards 44 or 66, making them “hot swappable.”